

A Labour L.C.C.—What Now ?

A CALL TO ACTION

THE Municipal Reform Party (M.R.'s), the open Tory enemy of the working class, has been smashing defeated in the L.C.C. elections.

The M.R.'s were defeated because the London workers understood that they had used their majority in the L.C.C. to give full support to the carrying out of the bitter anti-working-class policy of the National Government.

The London workers cleared them out because they wanted a complete change of L.C.C. policy. This means also a struggle against the National Government.

The London Labour Party asked the workers of London to give them a decisive majority. Now they have got it. What will they do with it ?

Will Morrison carry out his election promises and use his victory in the interests of the working class ?

Morrison's first speeches since his victory already show that he does not want to carry out the promises given when he was asking for the workers' votes.

Already he is preparing his excuses.

He speaks of "keeping within the law"; of the "limited power of the L.C.C."; of "needing more than one three-year period to carry out his plans"; of "heeding no improper influences," etc.

Morrison thus hastens to give assurance to the capitalists not to get alarmed, and warns the workers "not to expect too much."

These are the same excuses as the Labour Town Council in Glasgow put forward.

The London workers must reply to Morrison's argument as the Glasgow workers did, by organising mass agitation and demonstrations to demand the fulfilment of the Election pledges.

(As a result of demonstrations the Glasgow Town Council conceded an increase of 1s. a week in the allowance for the children of unemployed parents and an increase of 1s. 6d. per week for each unemployed householder.)

The Communist Party calls on the London working class to build a united front of action to compel the Labour Council to operate the following policy:

1. Fight against the new Unemployment Bill !
2. Refuse to operate the Means Test !
3. Stop all Test and Task Work !
4. Shut down Belmont, Hollesley Bay, and all other conscription and "training" camps and centres !
5. Putting in hand of works schemes of social value throughout L.C.C. area !
6. MINIMUM RELIEF FOR ALL UNEMPLOYED of 20s. per week for man; 10s. for his wife; and 5s. for each child !
7. Full relief for single unemployed men, women and youth !
8. Immediate return of the "economy" cuts to teachers and all other employees !
9. 25 per cent. reduction of rents in council houses !
10. Start right away knocking down the slums and build 250,000 houses at workers' rents !
11. 40-hour week with no cuts for Council employees !
12. Take the money from those who have got it—the capitalists !

13. Stop the fare-raising tricks of the London Passenger Transport Board !

14. Close the fascist barracks—demand the dismissal of the militarist Police Chief—Trenchard !

London workers ! Remember the example of the two Labour Governments showed that there is a world of difference between their promises and deeds !

Remember who we are dealing with. Morrison tells the workers that he is on their side, that he stands for socialism. But he tells the capitalists that he is "the friend of every business man."

This friendship for the capitalists brought forth his scheme for the London Passenger Transport Board, which took over the "people's trams" into a privately-owned transport monopoly, guaranteeing private dividends with the aid of the State.

Already this Board is knocking off cheap fares. One of its chief officers recently described it as "a great experiment, a step towards the corporate state"—the State of Fascism. Such is the "Socialism" of Mr. Morrison and his Party.

Morrison cleared the way for his pro-capitalist policy by leading the driving out of the Communists from the Labour Party in 1927-29, thus splitting the workers' movement in London.

The Communists, whom Morrison now impudently dubs as "splitters," appeal to all London workers who voted Labour to join in a fighting united front to compel the Labour Council to carry out its election pledges.

Labour workers, Trade Unionists, Co-operators !

Raise the question of the L.C.C. immediately carrying out these demands in the Trade Union branches, in the branches of the Labour Party, in the Co-op. Guilds. Send resolutions and deputations to your Labour L.C.C. member.

Get your organisation to support the coming All-London Workers' Conference of Action, which will discuss the Workers' Programme of Demands, and which will elect a representative deputation to present the demands at County Hall, backed up by a powerful mass demonstration of employed and unemployed workers.

Only such mass action will secure the workers' demands.

The workers cannot and will not wait. There are thousands in London on the starvation line.

Workers' children are underfed and dying from the measles and diphtheria epidemic which is spreading in the working-class areas.

There is slavery at Belmont. Fascism is arming in its Chelsea barracks. Thousands of London workers want houses, the unemployed want to get work on the housing schemes and other works schemes which the L.C.C. can put in hand.

Let no one be deceived by the delusion that 69 Labour members in County Hall means that the workers are in power there.

The capitalists remain in power at County Hall. The working-class power is in the factories, trade unions and on the streets.

By mass action we can win our demands !

Forward in united action !

